THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE;

OR

Weekly Intelligence

IN THE CIVIL, NATURAL, MORAL, LITERARY AND RELIGIOUS WORLDS.

CALCULATED PARTICULARLY FOR THE PERUSAL OF THE YOUNG, AND THOSE OF RETIRED HABITS OF LIFE.

PUBLISHED INDEPENDENTLY OF ANY INTERESTED PARTY ATTACHMENT, AND WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF TRUTH AND PURITY.

VOL. I.] *PHILADELPHIA, SEVENTH-DAY, 7th of Twelfth Month,* 1805. [No. 49.

The price of the Evening Fire-side is three dollars per annum.

FOR THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE.

To the Editors,

Amongst the numerous contributers to your paper, one of a late date has enrolled himself, under the signature of FARMER JAMES. From this title, one would scarcely guess at the subject of his essay; by which it seems he has in fact, though not in name, put off the plain and honest garb of AGRICOLA, to assume that of a *Critical Reviewer*. A more splendid dress 'tis true; but how few can wear it with safety to themselves, or advantage to others! The *insects* of the *night* are often deluded by the *flattering taper*.

Our author affects much modesty and candor, and declares his motives are pure and uninfluenced by personal prejudice, or attachment. Of the latter I have not the smallest reason to doubt: but I must beg leave to call in question, his modesty and candour, on account of his very severe assault upon CAUSTICUS; a person in whose fate I feel myself deeply interested. Had it not been for this, gentle reader, thou wouldst not have been troubled with these remarks, nor I with the office of a *reviewer*.

Speaking of CAUSTICUS, our *critic* observes, that "the original subject is lost sight of, and no philosophical facts (are) elucidated or explained; the phenomena and instances brought forward by SPECULATOR, are neither considered nor solved."—These round assertions seem to betray a want of modesty, and "add little credit to the author," when the reader is told that CAUSTICUS has shewn, that smoke and vapour do not combine with the wind, as SPECULATOR supposed, but simply mix with it:—that is contrary to the known laws of Hydrostatics for a fluid lighter than the surrounding atmosphere, to hover on the surface of the earth; thereby exploding another false fact of the same writer;—and *(without loosing sight of the subject)* that all the phenomena of fire, according to the best approved philosophy, depend on the different modifications of the matter of heat and light; and those of combustion on the various degrees of affinity which bodies possess for vital air, and the quantity of the latter present, at the time of combustion: thus referring to one source, and cause, all the *phenomena* of fire adduced by SPECULATOR; to explain which he had unphilosophically dissected that element into various *senses* and *species*.—And are there no philosophical facts elucidated or explained?—Where is modesty? Where is candor? *O Censor! Censor! stat nominis umbra.*

It has long been a maxim, that folly is most successfully combatted by its own weapons: hence the mode in which CAUSTICUS attacked the visionary theories of SPECULATOR, and if he have done nothing more than successfully ridiculed the doctrine of that author, (and even this is doubtful?) without *substituting any thing in its room*, he has still attained a desirable end.

Whether FARMER JAMES designed to find fault with the weapons themselves, or with the manner in which they were used, or both, does not so plainly appear. He lumps it all up together, and calls it *ludicrous stuff*; the self same thing the author designed it to be; as he did not conceive, many of the false facts adduced by SPECULATOR merited a serious refutation.

And now it only remains to be observed, that if any thing in this essay smell of ill-will, or malice, it falsely represents the author: mutuallity of instruction being his only object and desire.—And as the first has pierced the glebe and arrested the *farmer's* plow, it is hoped he will find time to push up the *chumps* in his *chimney corner*, and warm his *Fire-side comrades*.

J. CAUSTICUS.

FOR THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE.

Dear Eds. will you, in your great bounty,
Permit a wight from Chester County
To take on pegasus a ride,
And visit your neat *Fire-side?*
Although I'm quite unknown to you,
And dwell "remote from public view,"
Your Fire-side oft meets my sight,
And cheers my optics with its light.
Its rays have reach'd my lone retreat—
Indeed, I think I've felt its heat:
And as the nights are dark and frigid,
My modesty, whose rules are rigid,
Has been so vanquish'd by *sensation*
It yields, at length, to the temptation,
To draw towards the light and fire,
And try their influence somewhat nigher.
So on a dusky summer's night
The beetle steers his drowsy flight
Towards some bright, alluring taper,
And hums around with many a caper.
Full oft, indeed, the potent glare
Proves to our bug a fatal snare;
Attracted by the brilliant rays,
He plunges headlong in the blaze—
For late he finds his dismal error,
He tumbles scorch'd, and kicks in terror.
I hope, however, this sad fate
Does not upon your friend await:
Nor do I fear your generous light
Is like that phantom of the night,
Which for the traveller gilds the gloom,
And, faithless, "lures him to his doom."
The most I fear from you, dear Eds,
Is, what each youthful scribbler dreads,
That you will put me, luckless creature!
(As I'm so *dove-like* in my nature,)
Into that *pigeon-hole*, where never
Remembrance peeps with eyes so clever.
But as I cannot know my lot
Till I appear upon the spot,
I shall comply with my desire,
To view the circle round your fire,
And note each phiz, if I have time,
Which beams with wit, in prose or rhyme.

Bless me! why what a number's here!
I cannot notice half, I fear.
However, such as please me best,
I'll speak of first—take chance, the rest.
Among the first who took a seat
To write for your instructive sheet,
Is that sedate and moral youth,
Who advocates the cause of truth,
And writes so gravely for your paper

Beneath the signature of TAPER.
I like him much, though so demure—
His heart is good, his thoughts are pure.
VAROLA too's a good young man;
I like his style, approve his plan:
He knows to tell an useful story,
And publish truths in allegory.
SIMPLICITAS I once did read,
And thought he *simple* was, indeed.
ANGUS, I like thy thoughts and style;
I'd ride, to see thee, many a mile.
With taste and genius for thy part,
Thou know'st to touch the feeling heart—
The tender ode, th' elegiac lay,
Speak more for thee than I can say.
Next PHOSPHORUS—I see his phiz!
And one sarcastic lad he is.
He writes with ease—abounds in wit—
What pity but he'd govern it!
On friend and foe alike he falls,
And without ceremony, mauls.
If *I* escape without a sample
To prove his wit is keen and ample,
'Twill be because he won't come down
To notice such a country clown.
CALEB, it seems, has been a rover,
And eke a very ardent lover:
Of Emma's charms he sings with rapture,
About enough to make a chapter.
His rhyme is moderate—he's been told it,*
He takes it just as he can hold it.
An ANXIOUS MOTHER, number *six*,
Tells us of vaccination tricks;
And how her little "infant Jobs"
Wore bladder caps upon their knobs;
And that the Doctor told her plainly,
The small-pox would attack them vainly;
That they might take the small-pox matter
Like *snuff*, and never catch it a'ter.
The lays of ROLAND I admire;
I hope you'll keep him by your fire.
In him I see that valued merit
Of modesty combin'd with spirit.
AMICUS offers with much taste,
A chapter which I read with zest,
Compos'd by *Franklin*, (though deni'd)
His country's friend—his country's pride.
A *Member* of a certain *corps*,
Who seem'd in *manners* rather poor,
Attack'd, (as *he* thought monstrous shrewdly),
And us'd AMICUS very rudely.
A pretty writer next I see,
Who sings with grace and harmony;
A fav'rite, whom the Muses dandle,
And call a SPERMACETI CANDLE.
There's ROCKET, ALIQUEM, and CLIO,
A very decent little trio;
And several others who inherit
A portion of poetic spirit.—
But I must scan them o'er with speed
Or else I shall my bounds exceed.
ARIEL, indeed, that rhyming Hector,
Who quaff'd so much Parnassian nectar,
Must not be pass'd too slightly by—
I'll view the SYLPH with curious eye.
This *airy* phantom, who defies
Of mortal men the prying eyes,
I might in chemic tube transfer,
And test with Eudiometer;
But this would cause a deal of trouble,
And the *result* would be a bubble;
Therefore we'll save ourselves the pain,
And labour not so much *in vain*.
His acrimony I don't like—
Who has no feeling should not strike.
Because his satire is so keen,
He thinks he may indulge his spleen,
And if he make his reader smile,
May make his fellows writhe the while.
With his keen wit, and prying ken,
Which trac'd and told the haunts of men,
Too oft his malice is partaker,
And too oft "*bile tumet jecur*."
But, as some ancient author said,
(Whom I forget, and never read,)
"*Fiat justitia, ruat coelum*"—
If he has merits let us tell 'em.
His talents as a Poet, I
Nor no one else will e'er deny.
His match for style and poignant wit,
At your *Fire-side* has not been yet.
The DRUID next demands a line—
His Odes, indeed, are very fine;
But, one objection I'll express,
Which is their antiquated dress;
It looks so *outré* and so quaint,
It even gives the thoughts a taint.
His Odes have ever yet appear'd
To me, like boys in a grey beard.
Two bards conspicuous, yet there are,
Who've had a kind of *civil* war—
They scold like pretty chiding *charmers*;
And yet they are *soi-disant* farmers!
'Tis RUSTICUS, of Haddonfield,
Who scorns in such a fight to yield;
And CLEMENS, from near Downingstown,
Whom gentleness "mark'd for her own"—
In *my* opinion, Farmer *Rusti*,
Has been, with CLEMENS, rather crusty;
He wins the day for words and spirit,
But CLEMENS for poetic merit.
There's CAUSTICUS, with much good nature,
Administ'ring to SPECULATOR.
I hope the cauterizing lotion
Will smooth off every *fungous* notion,
Which 'mid the sense appear (vile trash)
As thick as warts upon a squash!
Excuse a rustic simile;
We country folks speak plain, you see.
And now among a crowd of names,
I'll only mention FARMER JAMES:
I mention him, because the man
Has dar'd, like I, your club to scan;
And you'll acknowledge that I should,—
Reviewers ought to be review'd.
However, JAMES is quite discreet;
To me his Essay was a treat.
He deals out justice to the band
With prudent, yet with lib'ral hand.
I hope some future, sage reviewer,
If he should truss *me* on his skewer,
In order to observe my worth,
My disposition, and so forth,
Will not "filch from me my good name,"
But just express about the same!

SIMON OLIVEBRANCH.

Chester County, November 25th, 1805.

* Vide PHOSPHORUS, No. 8.

FOR THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE.

ADDRESS TO THE MOON.

With what soft lustre.....what a modest beam
Shines yon fair planet in her cloudless way,
How coy her virgin kiss salutes the stream,
Her glance how timid on the quivering spray.

Queen of the night! I woo thy gentle reign,
With riot cloy'd and sick of worldly bliss,
For thee, mild goddess, quit the pageant train,
Unfit to mingle in a scene like this.

And ah! reject not one who long has fled,
Thy peaceful empire for a world of strife;
Tho' years have wasted on his wilder'd head,
And pleasures drown'd the real joys of life.

And ah! refuse not in his paths to shine,
To check his wand'rings with a friends' reproof;
Till steady Reason hold the stralten'd line,
And passion fly discarded from his roof.

C.

5th Month, 1805.

SELECTED FOR THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE.

From the Balance.

AMERICAN CAPTIVES IN TRIPOLI.

Extract from the journal of Dr. Cowdery, kept during his captivity in Tripoli.

[CONTINUED.]

March 1.—We were conducted to the castle.

March 2.—Found our habitation very dark and smoky, having no light but what came through a grated sky-light.

March 3.—Not allowed to visit the sick, and our droger-man was forbid carrying letters for us.

March 4.—Capt. Bainbridge received a letter from the ministers, reprimanding him on account of three men who floated ashore a few days after the burning of the frigate. The Turks pretended that they were murdered after they were made prisoners by the Americans.

March 6.—In close confinement.—Hamet, our droger-man, was taken from us. The Bashaw suspected him of being too friendly to us.

March 7.—The Tripolitans got the guns from the remains of our frigate, and mounted them on their batteries. In trying them, several of the gun carriages broke down, and one of the guns burst and killed one Turk and wounded four.

March 14.—The Turks seemed much alarmed, and placed a strong guard at our door, for what reason we knew not.

March 16.—The Bashaw sent word that I should have any thing I wanted, free of expence.

March 17.—Ordered not to send our clothes out to wash.

FOR THE EVENING FIRE-SIDE.

Messieurs Editors,

I cannot help reminding some of your correspondents of an error which they have fallen into, in their *signatures*; putting AGRICOLUS for AGRICOLA; FARMER for CRITIC; whilst another subscribes himself JACK SAILOR, who does not tell you that he has ever been at sea. Thus have I seen *red lions* and *golden bulls* painted upon *sign-posts*.

OBSERVER.

March 24.—I was taken out of prison to visit a mameluke's wife and child. The minister of foreign affairs paid us a visit, and said many clever things.

March 26.—A truce was held between commodore Preble and the Bashaw.

From the 28th March to the 13th April, I was violently afflicted with the dysentery, during which time the Bashaw expressed much anxiety, and offered me every assistance.

April 15.—We felt the Syroc wind, which was very oppressive.

April 24.—John Morrison died, in consequence of a hurt he received a few days before, while at work under the directions of his new masters. The Bashaw permitted me, with two of my fellow officers, to go to his garden, conducted by a guard of two Turks, armed with pistols and sabres. This precaution, they pretended, was taken to prevent the wandering Arabs and Moors from robbing us; but it was probably done to prevent our escaping to the squadron, then cruising off the harbor, in sight.

May 7.—Our boys caught a large scorpion in the small yard of our prison.

May 11.—Our squadron appeared off the town. The Turks were at their quarters. They had twelve gun-boats armed, manned, and moored out in the harbor.

May 16.—Ten of our officers took a walk to the gardens under escort of a guard. They returned with a variety of flowers and ripe apricots.

May 20.—A party of us, under escort of four Turks, walked to the desart, about four miles from our prison. We ascended a large bank of sand where we had an extensive view of the country. The desarts have a singular and grand appearance. They extend to Mount Atlas, which we could see, at a distance of two days' journey. The sand is in heaps, like snow-drifts in our country. There was not a house nor any other object to be seen—not a thing growing to interrupt the sight; but it appeared like an ocean of sand. On our return we visited several gardens, where we got oranges, lemons, apricots, and a variety of flowers. We were treated with the sap of the date tree, which tasted much like mead.

May 29.—A party of us, under escort, as before, took a walk into the desart. On our return we dined in the Bashaw's garden, under the shade of orange trees. The dinner was prepared in the Turkish style, and we ate with wooden spoons—it was simple and good. We visited several gardens, and were treated with as much respect as could beexpected or desired, from a foe, who held us as prisoners of war. On returning to the town, we saw two of our brigs at anchor off the harbor, seeming to defy all the force of Tripoli.

June 4.—We are plentifully supplied with squashes and cucumbers.

The Bashaw's eldest wife, called the queen, was delivered of her ninth child on the 18th of June. She was twenty-three years of age. Her first child was born when she was in her eleventh year. It was said to be common to marry at ten.

June 27.—Mr. Hodge our boatswain, Mr. Douglass, the sail-maker, and Mr. Fontaine the first master's mate were taken from the prison and set to work by order of the Bashaw.

July 15.—The Bashaw, his wives and guards, removed to their country seat at his garden. The season very warm and our close confinement continued. We purchased figs, watermelons, muskmellons and cucumbers.

July 18.—I was called to visit the Bashaw's oldest son, the Bey of Tripoli, (termed the *Prince of Wales of Tripoli*, by the English consul) at his palace, about three miles from town. I found him in a lofty and airy apartment, lying on a matrass, and surrounded by his attendants. I prescribed for him and was highly entertained in the Turkish style. Saw two old women, said to have been a former Bashaw's wives.

July 19.—The Bey was well enough to return to Tripoli. He called at the door of our prison, which was unlocked and the bolts and bars unloosed. I was conducted to him, when he expressed great satisfaction at having recovered his health, thanked me for my attendance, and promised to alleviate our misfortunes, as far as was in his power. I was then sent back to prison. The Bashaw and Bey spent a day alternately in town, on account of the expected attack by the Americans.

July 31.—I was carried, with my trunk and bed, to the castle, where a room was provided for me, and the Bashaw informed me I must attend the Americans and his family as a physician.

August 3.—The American squadron, under commodore Preble, consisting of one frigate, the Constitution, two brigs, three schooners, and seven gun-boats, at about 2 o'clock, P. M. commenced an attack on the batteries and gun-boats of Tripoli. I stood on the top of the castle, where I had a fair view of the engagement. Three of the enemy's gun-boats were captured by the Americans. Two Turks swam on shore, and were carried before the Bashaw, who gave them each a suit of clothes and a few dollars. They said that many were killed on both sides.

August 5.—The American squadron anchored off Tripoli, I was ordered to dress the wound of a mameluke, who had his hand shattered by the bursting of a blunderbuss. I amputated all his fingers but one, with a dull knife, and dressed them in a bungling manner, in hopes of losing my credit as a surgeon in this part of the country, for I expected to have my hands full of wounded Turks, in consequence of the exploits of my brave countrymen.

August 9.—At about 12 o'clock, the alarm gun of Tripoli was fired. The Tripolitans all took their stations, and went through the Mahometan prayer, by kneeling and kissing the ground several times, with their faces toward the east, all with as much regularity as the exercise in a well-disciplined army. Their military manœuvering was a scene of the utmost confusion. I got permission to go on the top of the castle, where I had a most extensive view of the sea and land, and saw the American squadron approaching the town. At about 1 o'clock the attack commenced, and the battle soon became vigorous, with a tremendous cannonading on both sides. I now beheld the melancholy catastrophe of the explosion of one of our gun-boats. I saw the mangled bodies of my countrymen precipitated into the air. For a few moments, a general silence took place, when the firing recommenced with unabated vigor. I saw shells explode, and set fire to the town in many places; but the houses being principally built of stone, mud and mortar, the fire did but little damage. The shells and shot, however, battered the town very much, and almost destroyed some of the houses.—The firing ceased at about 4, P. M. when the ship John Adams joined the squadron. The Bashaw has a bomb-proof room in his castle, where he staid during the action. On hearing of the explosion of our gun-boat, he ventured out to take a peep, with the precaution of having a *Marabewt* or priest, to seal a small black piece of paper on the top of his head,

with a Turkish or Mahometan scrawl, with assurances that it would entirely secure him from all danger; but he soon returned to his cell. The Turks all wear a paper of this kind, sewed up in a little velvet bag, with assurances from the *Marabewt*, that it will protect them in the greatest danger. The *Marabewt* gets a sum of money for these blessings. If a Turk gets wounded or killed, it is supposed the blessed paper was too old, or not placed in a proper manner. In the time of action, the *Marabewts* get upon some secure place, and cry to Mahomet in the most dismal yells to let them conquer their enemies; and beckon to the vessels to run on shore or be destroyed. Such of our crew as were able, were put to work, and drove about like horses or mules.

(To be continued.)

A brief sketch of the origin and present state of the city of Philadelphia. 1804.

(Concluded from our last.)

The City has since been beautified with an elegant structure, executed in white marble, from the design of an Ionick Temple, for the offices of the Bank of Pennsylvania; and the intersection of the two principal streets is now occupied by a round Tower, for the reception and distribution of the Schuylkill water, raised by machinery to a level of thirty or forty feet above the highest ground in the city.

The streets of Philadelphia are paved with pebble stones, and bordered with ample footways, raised one foot above the carriage way, for the ease and safety of passengers. They are kept cleaner than those of any city in Europe, except the towns of Holland, where trade is carried on by canals; and London is the only capital in the world that is better lighted at night. Many of the new streets have been latterly planted with poplars, whose rapid growth, and spiral form, peculiarly adapt them to shade the avenues of a city. Their introduction has already given to some sections the air of Public Walks, for the ornament of which nothing is wanting but Fountains and Statuary: particularly in some parts of Market street, and Chesnut street, and in Walnut street from sixth to eighth, in front of Sansom Row.

The private buildings are generally three stories high: They are built of a clear red brick, and ornamented in the new streets with facings, key stones, and flights of steps, in white marble.

Ever since the operation of the Federal Constitution, four or five hundred houses have been annually erected, no small proportion of which (it is said, not less than two hundred) have been built, or caused to be built, by a single Citizen,* whose well laid plans have greatly improved the Town, particularly in Walnut street; in Sansom street, the first that has been built in America with strict attention to uniformity; and in Second street, where it crossed a morass that had long formed an inconvenient separation between the City and the Northern Suburbs.

Philadelphia, including Southwark and the Northern Liberties, now extends near three miles along the Delaware, and about a mile east and west; and is supposed to contain thirteen thousand houses, and eighty thousand people.

There are in it upwards of thirty churches, or meeting houses, in which the various Denominations of Believers perform the homage of public worship, to the common Father of Mankind, according to their peculiar forms and persuasions, under the happy system of toleration, secured to all professions, without a legal establishment for any.

Three large Meeting houses are now building in different parts of the City, and stone piers have been erected in the river Schuylkill, for a permanent bridge of three arches, whose gigantic span would have been thought impracticable in Europe, long after the first settlement of Pennsylvania.

The market of Philadelphia for beef, veal, and mutton, is second only to that of Leadenhall; and its pork, poultry and game, are not inferior to those of the finest climates in the world: though it is excelled by New-York in the articles of fish and fruit.

The City was first incorporated in 1701, before which period it was called the town of Philadelphia; but the Corporation was self elective, and not accountable to the Citizens, according to the execlusive systems of the Mother Country.

On the late auspicious Revolution, this Charter was annulled, and its powers were variously distributed, until in 1789, a Corporation was again regularly organized, by charter, constituting a Mayor, Recorder, fifteen Aldermen, a Common Council, &c. The latter to be annually chosen by the taxable inhabitants.

The public Institutions of Philadelphia, are peculiarly numerous and beneficial.—They include a University, as well as a competent number of public, private, and free Schools, a Philosophical Society, a Museum, a public Library, a Hospital, a Dispensary, one public and two private Almshouses, a College of Physicians, Societies for promoting Agriculture, for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures, for the Abolition of Negro Slavery (a stain of Colonial dependance that still tarnishes the fair escutcheon of American freedom) and for alleviating the miseries of Public prisons, to whose benevolent exertions is chiefly owing the improvement of the penal code, and the present safety of the inhabitants from the depredations of the unprincipled part of the community.

Besides these benevolent Associations, there are now in Philadelphia, three chartered Banks, six marine Insurance Companies, two for insuring against fire, and forty-one Printing offices, five of which publish daily papers, that are in a few days circulated, from Georgia to New-Hampshire, by means of the Post-office, which originated in 1775, in the then capital of the British Colonies, under the auspices of the venerable Franklin, so long the benefactor of his country.

The Mint of the United States is still kept at Philadelphia; a Type Foundery has been long established, and printing, coachmaking, cabinet work, and shipbuilding, are carried to a degree of perfection unrivalled in America, and little excelled in Europe. But the staple commodity of Philadelphia is flour, of which 400,000 barrels have been exported in a year.

Such is the salubrity of the air of Philadelphia, that the births annually exceed the deaths in the proportion of five to three; yet the excessive heat of the summer months, during which the thermometer may be averaged at 72, and sometimes rises to 93, is so nearly allied to the atmosphere of the burning zone, as readily to receive and propagate the Yellow Fever of the West Indies, of late so frequently introduced into the United States, through perpetual intercourse, feebly restrained by the inadequate operations of local and temporary health laws.

Within the memory of a gentleman of observation, there were but three coaches kept by all the gentry of Philadelphia; not more than two, or at most three ships arrived once a year with the *unrivalled* manufactures of Britain; nor were petty sloops fitted out to exchange American flour for West India produce but in shares of one third, one sixth, or even one twelfth, by the then principal Merchants of the place. Without exceeding the bounds of ordinary longevity, he has lived to see twelve or fifteen hundred sail annually expedited for every quarter of the Globe, of which fifteen or twenty double the southern Promontory of Africa, and explore the Antipodes for the most costly productions of the East; while at home three hundred coaches occasionally display the ease of opulence, or the elegance of luxury.

Such an increase of wealth and splendor, within the recollection of a single life, admits of but one comparison in the history of the World; and, if the capital of Russia may justly boast superior numbers, and a more recent origin, Petersburgh has been created among the marshes of the Neva by a succession of absolute princes, commanding the resources of a mighty empire; while Philadelphia, at first only the chief town of a dependant colony, and now no more than the capital of a single province of an infant Na-

* William Sansom, Esq.

tion, has risen upon the banks of the Delaware, from the liberal institutes of a PRIVATE Founder, seconded only by the energy of principle, and the efforts of intelligence, to a distinguished rank among the capitals of Nations.

Account of buildings erected in Philadelphia in 1802, 1803, *and* 1804, *by actual enumeration.*

East and West Streets,	1802. Brick.	1802. Frame.	1803. Brick.	1803. Frame.	1804. Brick.	1804. Frame.
Callowhill street,	1	4	8	6	1	2
Vine	2	0	3	1	1	2
Sassafras	6	0	4	0	6	0
Mulberry	3	0	7	1	10	0
Cherry	4	0	5	0	6	0
Filbert	3	1	3	0	2	0
Church alley	4	0	0	0	4	0
High	8	3	2	2	9	1
Chesnut	27	5	11	0	12	0
Sansom	12	0	22	0	9	0
George	0	0	0	0	1	0
Norris's alley	6	0	0	0	0	0
Walnut	13	0	9	0	8	1
Prune	0	0	3	0	5	0
Locust	6	2	9	0	1	0
Spruce	19	2	9	0	12	2
Union	5	0	2	0	3	0
Pine	14	3	10	1	5	0
Lombard	5	5	6	5	6	0
Gaskill	6	0	4	0	3	0
Cedar	0	0	4	0	1	0
	144	29	121	20	105	8
North and South Streets.						
Water street,	4	0	3	0	3	0
Front	3	0	4	0	0	0
Second	7	0	8	0	2	0
Third	4	0	1	0	2	0
Fourth	8	0	10	0	3	0
Fifth	16	0	4	0	4	0
Sixth	11	0	12	0	5	2
Seventh	10	0	14	1	1	2
Eighth	6	0	10	0	1	2
Ninth	13	0	8	0	6	0
Tenth	6	9	2	1	2	1
Eleventh	4	1	2	2	1	2
Twelfth	3	1	10	0	5	0
Bank	5	0	0	0	0	0
Brannen's alley	6	0	0	0	0	0
North and South streets,	106	11	88	4	45	9
East and west streets,	144	29	121	20	105	8
	250	40	209	24	150	17
City west of Twelfth st.	6	15	15	20	16	10
Northern Liberties to the first mile-stone,	59	53	44	38	26	34
Southwark,	23	18	15	2	12	8
BRICK,	338	1	283	0	204	0
FRAME,	126	0	102		69	0
TOTAL,	464	0	385	0	273	0

In 1802, there were four hundred and sixty-four; in 1803, three hundred and eighty-five; in 1804, two hundred and seventy-three dwelling houses erected in the city and liberties; and, during those three years, there were also erected, six buildings for worship; and a number of warehouses, not included in the foregoing enumeration.

To the Editors of the Evening Fire-side.

Although the following memorandum has already appeared in a periodical publication, yet it may be new to many readers in your Fire-side circle.

JONATHAN.

Memorandum concerning the influence of Music on the common Mouse. Communicated to the Editor of the Medical and Physical Journal, by Samuel Cramer, M. D. of Jefferson county, in Virginia.

The following circumstance was related to me by a gentleman of undoubted veracity.

One evening, in the month of December, as a few officers, on board of a British man of war, in the harbor of Portsmouth, were seated around the fire, one of them began to play a plaintive air on the violin.

He had scarcely performed ten minutes, when a mouse, apparently frantic, made its appearance in the centre of the floor near the large table which usually stands in the wardroom, the residence of the lieutenants in ships of the line.—The strange gestures of the little animal strongly excited the attention of the officers, who, with one consent, resolved to suffer it to continue its singular actions unmolested. Its exertions now appeared to be greater every moment. It shook its head, leaped about the table, and exhibited signs of the most extatic delight.

It was observed, that in proportion to the gradation of the tones to the soft point, the extacy of the animal appeared to be increased, and vice versa. After performing actions, which an animal so diminutive would, at first sight, seem incapable of, the little creature, to the astonishment of the delighted spectators, suddenly ceased to move; fell down, and expired, without evincing any symptoms of pain.

DIVERSITY OF OPINION.

The study of Natural Philosophy is calculated to entertain the enquiring mind. To investigate the hidden operations of nature, to trace the connection of her laws, and to explain her multiform phenomena, are rational and sublime employments.

The rill, which glides by the dwelling of the peasant, conveys to his untutored mind the ideas of beauty and utility, and he enquires no further. The Philosopher finds in the same a fruitful source of delight and contemplation. The unlettered rustic hears with terror the thunder of heaven, he views with awe the vivid lightning. The Philosopher explains the mysterious cause, and conducts the death-portending flash harmless to the earth.

The penetrating observer of nature views, with astonishment, the progress of vegetation. The air he breathes furnishes him a theme for noble and useful speculation. A falling shower is a world of wonders.

But in observing the characters of those, who have attended to this interesting study, we perceive the different effects it has produced on their opinions and belief. One with a frigid, sceptic soul, which we are almost tempted to believe material, pretends to be lost in doubt, and bewildered in uncertainty. A second, confident in his knowledge, can account for *all* things. He disclaims the weak notions of the humble enquirer after truth, maintains the eternity of matter, or some other dogma equally absurd; and, with infidel front, denies the Great First Cause. Another, acknowledging his inability to comprehend many of the mysterious laws of nature, owns a creating hand, and "looks through nature up to nature's God."

In that study, which is so important in the sciences, and more refined as well as mechanic arts, and in nearly all the purposes of life, the cause of such disparity in its effects should be accurately sought and fully known. And this we attempt to do on the following hypothesis.

A person of a warm temperament, who has acquired a habit of judging hastily, and is impatient of abstract reasoning, will find many things to disturb him in the course of his studies. He cannot explain them immediately; he therefore condemns the opinion of his author, or instructor, and passes more easily over the difficulty by framing an hypothesis, or embracing some absurd, unfounded theory. In this way he contracts a habit of forming systems, more consonant to his ideas of nature, and in a hasty and self-sufficient manner explains every phenomenon.

Another begins the study, with a mind little in harmony with the Divine Character, and uneasy in the belief of his existence. Such an one will certainly be a sceptic. The film of prejudice, which covers his eye, will darken every object he beholds. Beauty, harmony and regularity will to him appear disgusting, dis-

order and deformity. He will soon be confirmed in error, for "None are so blind as the man who *will not* see." We pass others by, to notice him, who seeks truth wherever it may be found, who loves it, whatever it be. Such an one reasons coolly, judges without prejudice, and therefore obtains correct notions.—Such an one looks into nature with delight; for there is harmony, there is order, there is a display of consummate wisdom. At every advance he exclaims in ecstacy, what new wonder is here? As he analyzes the air, his mind dilates with adoration; while he studies the properties of fire, his affections are inflamed with love; as his mind explores, in imagination, unbounded space, his soul proportionably rises in contemplation of Deity.

Thus tempers and dispositions, at first little differing, produce in the course of study a great diversity in opinion and belief. Take heed, ye observers of nature, with what tempers ye enter the threshhold of her mysterious temple; for on this depends your success. As your prejudices, or tempers incline, she will either lead you into the hall of reason, seat you under the canopy of truth, display before you her own richest treasures, and feast you on her delicacies; or she will lead you to the dungeon of error, and there confine you with the fetters of prejudice, blinded with doubt, and starred with infidelity.

[*Literary Tablet.*] LOAMMI.

It is hoped that the Printers of Newspapers will contribute to the cause of humanity, by giving the following observations as much publicity as they can.

Caution with respect to the violent treatment of Cats.

In the Memoirs of the Academy of Turin, Vol. 6th, is found a very interesting communication of Mr. Rossi, entitled "Observations, dissections, and experiments on the bite of enraged animals." One of the most important facts contained in it, is, "that cats may by ill treatment be rendered mad, and without having been themselves bitten, may by their bite produce the most violent Hydrophobia." He relates the following instances:

"A young man was bit by a cat in the leg; he suffered acute pain for some time; this ceased, and he became well. Every method of preventative for Hydrophobia was used, cautery, caustick, alkalies, blisters, &c.—all in vain; the 49th day the symptoms appeared, and the patient died with his teeth fixed in a piece of iron. It is remarkable that the cat had only been rendered furious by being confined in a room and tormented.

"A cow-feeder having remarked a cat often coming to steal milk in his dairy, lay in wait for it, and attacked it with a hatchet. There was a considerable contest, until at last, the cat, unable to avoid the approaching blow, leaped at the man, and seized his chin, whence there was no possibility of detaching it, but by cutting off its head. The patient was carried to the hospital, and all the preventatives of hydrophobia, as cautery, purging, bleeding, and mercurial salivation applied. On the 20th day the fatal symptoms made their appearance; he experienced much difficulty in swallowing water, but this he overcame with great fortitude; the difficulty increased, the wound became bad; the patient became furious, endeavoured to bite every one that came near him; was bound in chains, and immediately broke them in pieces; leaped from his bed, ran up and down the hospital, attempting to bite every one he met, till reaching the outer door in order to escape, he was seized with a shivering and fell down dead."

The dreadful lessons, taught by the cases here stated, should be carefully kept in mind, by all who are, from their tempers and habits of life, much exposed to the temptation or the necessity of using harsh methods with the most common of our domestic animals.

[*Edinburgh Review, April*, 1805.]

NEW PLAN OF EDUCATION.

Last week, Mr. Lancaster, the ingenious author of the new plan of education established in the borough, had the honor of being introduced to their majesties at Weymouth. The King, having made himself thoroughly acquainted with the principles of the new scheme by which thousands of children may at one and the same time be taught reading, writing and arithmetic, at an expence inconceivably small, his Majesty was pleased to express his anxious and paternal desire that the benefits of the system might be extended to every part of his United Kingdoms, by the establishment of schools on the plan of Mr. Lancaster, His Majesty subscribed 100l. for the purpose; the Queen subscribed 50l. the five Princesses 10l. each; and the Duke of Kent 10; making together 210l. which was transmitted to Mr. Lancaster, with an intimation that the same sum should be paid annually. We rejoice to find that from this auspicious beginning, considerable progress is already made, for several stations in the west of England were fixed on for the appointment of schools; and Mr. Lancaster is to send youths who have been taught his method, to superintend their outset.

[*Liverpool paper.*]

[By the kindness of a friend we have been furnished with the following interesting letters, extracted from a Newspaper of early date. If, among our readers, there be any one acquainted with the subsequent history of the parties, a communication on the subject would be to us highly interesting, and perhaps not unacceptable to the public.]

Extract of a letter from Dr. M——r.

Albany, 27th Dec. 1778.

Business having called me hither, I went to view the Hospital, where many of our army were sick; I observed with pleasure that no epidemical disease prevailed among them. Passing through the large hall in the middle of the Hospital, I perceived a soldier whose countenance struck me; he viewed me very attentively; finally called me. I drew nigh him, and having seated myself on his bed, listened to him. I am a stranger, said he, however, can you not believe the words of an American soldier? The term of my engagement is almost expired; I have an extreme desire to return to my family, because I have heard that my brother is dead. I have found a man to take my place in the regiment.—My father possesses a considerable estate in Virginia: What would you think of me, should I request of you an hundred dollars? With that money I can pay the sum which I have agreed to pay, go from this hospital, and again join my relations. I have the greatest desire to quit this state before the fall of snow, which is very nigh: we have no posts, consequently there remains for me no means of informing my relations of my unhappy situation.——Struck by the bold, but honest request, I examined the traits of his countenance very attentively; I consulted the secret impression which his physiognomy produced upon me. I thought that I saw the character of honesty, and granted him the sum which he requested of me.——The surprise which

my facility occasioned, cut short his words for a moment; but he soon shed tears, which relieved him extremely; they were those of the most lively gratitude. He bathed my hands with them, and thanked me in the most energetic manner.

Some days after he came to see me, informed me more particularly of the state of his family, and renewed his protestations of payment the first day of February following. I had no uneasiness, and had he never returned the sum which I had lent him, I should not have lost it; for I enjoyed an exquisite pleasure in the act which I had done, and still enjoy it, whenever it occurs to my mind. Methinks I still see all the gestures of the young man, all the traits of his countenance, expressing the return of hope and of happiness, methinks I still hear the cry of his gratitude, rising towards his benefactor and towards Heaven.

Five weeks after his departure, I received a letter from his father, his mother, and his uncle, a copy of which I send you (for I will preserve the original as long as I live.) Tell me, I pray you, what you think of the offers which they have made me, and what I ought to do? If I accept this astonishing return of their gratitude, I shall be considered as a mercenary, who has obliged only with a view of augmenting my fortune. If I refuse entirely, may they not accuse me of pride? I know not what to do. Shall I go to reside and live among strangers, by virtue of this singular adoption? I may perhaps expose myself to the reproaches of my friends; for it is not the opinion of the public I dread. Tell me, I pray you, your opinion.

"*Virginia, Culpepper County, Nov.* 18, 1778

"I had two sons, one had already perished in these boisterous times, but he died defending his country; the other was also about to disappear, and you have saved his life by giving him the means, by which he might come and rejoin his relations. Already afflicted by the death of the former, I became each day more unhappy through fear that I should never again see the latter. But for you, perhaps this day we might have been childless. But tell us, what was the motive which determined you to that generous action; to choose our son from among so many others who equally merited your attention? Blessed be the invisible hand which conducted you safely towards his bed, and made you listen attentively to his proposal. He has informed us that the day was the 14th of October; let it be hereafter an epoch of annual joy in my family:—I consecrate it, that it may be distinguished from others by the most fervent thanks to the Supreme Being, by a suspension of labor, and by innocent pleasures. My servants shall partake with us the joy inspired by the sweet recollection. Suffer them to share in the general gratitude; do not despise the part which they may take, for they are men, and I have always treated them as such. You have procured for our son health, liberty, and the pleasure of again visiting his relations; what benefits! Happily the young man has many friends and relations; had he not, the weight of his gratitude would be too much for him to bear. He has told me that you never have been a father; you cannot then conceive the joy, nor the paternal sensations which transport my heart; wise nature has hidden them as a treasure from those to whom he has not given children.

"We are unacquainted with each other, it is true, but virtuous men are connected by the bonds of intellectual consanguinity. Hereafter consider me as your friend; I will neglect nothing to merit that name; by the law of nature, I am the father of that son whom you have relieved; you are the adopted father whom nature hath given him in the critical moment when he was abandoned and in want; we are then brothers, and Heaven grant this new union may last forever!—Come and join us, come and partake with us the possession and enjoyment of all we have. You are already incorporated in our family. Come and take possession of that chair which awaits you at our table. My wife!—But who can express the chagrin, the affliction, the joy, the surprise, the love and all the different movement of her maternal sensibilty. It was only by the most vehement wringing of her hands, by her tears, and her sighs, that you could conceive of the whole extent of her gratitude. Not only our whole family, but all our neighbourhood, to whom your name has already become dear, will receive you as you deserve, and will convince you that there are still souls which have not lost, among the cruelties of this war, those sentiments which distinguish virtuous men.

"To convince you that this letter is not formed of vague words, inspired by the sudden joy of sentiments which will soon evaporate, and be forgotten; to convince you that the impression made upon our hearts by your generosity, shall be as durable as the service which you have rendered us; the bearer of this letter, who is my brother's son, will deliver you an authentic and legal contract of one half of the plantation of ——, accompanied by a negro which I give you, a second coming from my son, a third from my wife's mother, and a servant from each of my brothers. This contract, as well as the bill of sale, as you will see by the endorsement, are signed, sealed, and recorded according to law.—This new property is irrevocably yours. Happy if our soil, our government, and our climate can persuade you to reside among us!—Join this small present to your fortune; come and dwell in Virginia, where your talents, your merit, and your humanity are already known, and will procure you all the advantages which the esteem of a grateful family, and an enlightened neighbourhood can produce. May the messenger which I send find you safe and sound, and bring you to our arms.

W——A——S——."

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN.—The following particulars of the war preparations of Auſtria, Ruſſia, France, &c. are collected with ſome care, from various ſources; and may be conſidered as correct as round numbers generally are:—

Auſtrian war preparations.——The line of troops which Auſtria is ſaid to have aſſembled, reaches from the borders of Hungary, on the S. E. to Switzerland on the weſt, with a front towards Italy extending nearly to the Adige; and to the N. to the circle of Bavaria; with a covering army in Bohemia. This poſition covers Vienna, and the centre of the empire.

The troops compoſing this line are ſaid to exceed 200,000 men: of which the French official account declares the Auſtrian force in Italy alone (including Tryol to be 72,000.

Theſe forces will be divided into two grand Armies; one to act on the Rhine and Danube; the other in the Italian ſtates.

The army on the Rhine, &c. will be commanded by the Emperor Francis II in perſon; with the veteran General Mack for his ſecond in command; and the Duke Ferdinand, and Prince Charles of Schwarzenberg, commanding the wings. The Emperor left Vienna the 10th September to take the command of his army, which will conſiſt of 130, 000 men. The van of this army had advanced into Bavaria.

The army of Italy will be commanded by the celebrated Archduke Charles; having his brother, the Archduke John, for ſecond and prince John Lichſtenſtein, for his third in command. The veteran General Bellegarde is with this army.

One of the armies of reſerve is in Bohemia, and conſiſts of 80,000 men.

Hungary was to furniſh 50,000 men; Heſſe-Caſel had 36,000 foot.

Two columns of the Auſtrian army, one commanded by the Archduke Ferdinand, the other by General Klenan, paſſed the river Inn the 7th and 8th September, marching towards Donawert and Munich, to take poſt on the Lech. Theſe are about 35,000 ſtrong.

The Bavarian forces retreated before theſe columns towards Wartzburg, in Franconia. When collected, it is ſaid they will exceed 40,000 men.

Ruſſian war preparations.—The Ruſſian Emperor, in his declaration to the court of Vienna (publiſhed lately) has avowed, that he had ſent two armies into Gallicia, of 50,000 men each. Thoſe armies, at the laſt dates, were making forced marches; and it was expected, by the middle of October, would form a junction with the Auſtrians.

A third army was ſaid to have aſſembled near Wilna (formerly Poland) and was to be commanded by Alexander I. in perſon. The Ruſſian Imperial Guards, under the Grand Duke Conſtantine, brother to the Emperor, were marching through Lithunia, for the Auſtrian States.

The veteran General Kutuſofe was at the head of one of the armies; Prince Pancration, the Baron Winzingerode, names of celebrity, accompany theſe troops. Gen. Michelſon commanded another army.

Troops from the Kuhan, Siberia, and Kiow, will form bodies of reſerve. The regular troops of Ruſſia exceed 500,000 men.

One of the Ruſſian armies was at Brody in Gallicia, about 300 miles from Vienna, the 20th Auguſt. The other was not far behind.

Thirty thouſand Ruſſians embarked at St. Peterſburg, the 28th Auguſt, bound to Swediſh Pomerania.

The Ruſſian troops in the Ionian Iſlands exceed 30,000, and were daily augmenting by recruits from the Black Sea, which paſs the channel of Conſtantinople without any hindrance. One diviſion lately arrived was commanded by General Gerdue, a Frenchman; and a diviſion of 12,000 was ready for embarkation at Odeſſa and Sebaſtopel. It is a fact, no leſs than 12,000 tons of tranſporting ſhipping had been provided by Great-Britain, and were at the diſpoſal of the Ruſſian Commander at Corfu. We have no doubt, the next news we have from this quarter, will be the tranſportation of theſe troops from the Seven Iſlands, to Ancona, or perhaps to Venice or Trieſte.

French war preparations.—Theſe preparations are on a large ſcale; and extend from Olcanto, at the extremity of Italy, to Hanover, on the north of Germany.

The grand army, about the middle of September, was aſſembled on the Banks of the Rhine; compoſed of 140,000 men, commanded by the Emperor NAPOLEAN I. in perſon; aſſiſted by his brother in-law, Marſhal Berthier (Miniſter of War) Louis Bonaparte, Generals Oudinot and Marmont. The Emperor was at Straſburg the 16th of September.

The army in Italy is commanded by Marſhal Maſſena, who arrived at Milan, his headquarters, the 7th Auguſt. He has with him of name, Marſhal Jourdan, and General St. Cyr. This army, though ſtated at only 50,000 men, in Talleyrand's note, was to be augmented to 120,000.

A ſouthern army of obſervation was to aſſemble near the Pyrennees, under Marſhal Angereau.

The grand French army of reſerve has three head-quarters, Boulogne, Mayence, and Straſburg: Marſhal Brune commands at the firſt; Senator Marſhal Lefebre at the ſecond; and Senator Marſhal Kellerman at the third.

Three flying camps of grenadiers will rendezvous at Rennes, Napolean, and Alexandria, under three Brigadier-Generals.

Pruſſia was in motion.—She had a large force ready for the fray; but was apparently

"Waiting till conqueſt ſhould decide,
Which was the ſtrongeſt, ſafeſt ſide."

Sweden had ordered freſh troops into Pomerania; and her Monarch had fixed his reſidence at Chriſtianſtadt, to be near the ſcene of operations.

No blood had been ſhed at the date of our accounts; but the next late arrivals will bring details of battles loſt and won.

DOMESTIC.—On the 2d inſtant the Congreſs of the United States met at Waſhington; and there being a quorum proceeded to the election of their reſpective officers. On the 3d a meſſage was preſented unto them from the Preſident; of which we will lay before our readers a brief abſtract, our limits not allowing us to give the whole.

After mentioning the menacing poſture of the European nations to each other, and alſo to us, the Preſident proceeds to take "a view of the ſtate of our country." In this, the late viſitation of the "fatal fever," the health laws, and their influence on commerce, are firſt adverted to. The pirates that have infeſted our coaſts, and the commiſſioned plunderers that have vexed our trade, are next noticed, and the meaſures which have been adopted in conſequence. But the attention of the Legiſlature is chiefly directed to the ſerious infringements upon our rights as a neutral nation, by the belligerent powers; and the hoſtile diſpoſition manifeſted by the Spaniſh government, and by its colonial agents. From a view of theſe, the Preſident infers the neceſſity of warlike preparations. Our relation with the Indian tribes preſent a more agreeable aſpect—a progreſs of civilization among them, and of friendly intercourſe with us—new treaties—and deputations from tribes far diſtant, form the ſummary. The extinction of the war with Tripoli, and the return to freedom of our brethren who were priſoners there, afford, likewiſe, a ſubject for congratulation.

The financial department is repreſented in a flouriſhing condition, and a conſiderable reduction of the public debt is declared. The Preſident concludes his meſſage, with aſſurance of his zealous co-operation in every "meaſure which may tend to ſecure the liberty, property, and perſonal ſafety of our fellow citizens, and to conſolidate the republican forms and principles of our government."

The Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of this ſtate were organized on the 3d inſt. JAMES BRADY, Eſquire, is choſen ſpeaker of the Senate, and CHARLES PORTER, Eſquire, ſpeaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.

Interments in the different burial grounds of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, for the week ending 30th ult. Adults 14.—Children 17.—Total 31.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are obliged to defer the publication of the remaining part of the anſwer to ZETETICUS until next week, as well as LYRICUS' and AYEMBEE's poetic communications.

We *queſtion* the *utility* of the *Queſtion* ſent us by "*A lover of uſeful queſtions*,"—of courſe we omit it.

POLLY SPEAKTRUTH's communication is received.

ERRATA.

If C. had written his FRAGMENT more intelligibly, the following liſt of errata would have been unneceſſary:

No. 48, p. 380, Poem on Slavery,

in line 18 for bond-tree read *bor'd*-tree.
20 canic *conic*
24 ſcarr'd *ſcorn'd.*

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH RAKESTRAW, & CO. NO. 84, NORTH FRONT-STREET,

Where Subſcriptions and Communications (poſt paid) *will be received.*

Subſcriptions will alſo be received at BENJAMIN JOHNSON's *Book-Store, No.* 31, *Mark Street.*